have hundred per cent weighment of non-standard bags.

(b) and (c) Do not arise, in view of the reply to part (a) above.

Rise in Prices of Pulses

1722. SHRIMATI KAMALA SINHA: DR. BAPU KALDATE:

Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the recent rise in the prices of pulses in the Delhi market and hoarding of stocks by the traders paralysing the supply and leading to hike in the prices;

(b) if so, what according to the study, if any, conducted by Government is the percentage of rise in the prices of pulses during the last six months at its various outlets, like Super Bazar, Co-operative Stores and the open market; and

(c) what measures have been taken by Government to contain the prices of pulses to a reasonable level?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) The Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi has not reported any hoarding of stocks of pulses by the traders. The recent variation in the prices was due to the local imbalance between the demand and supply of pulses in Delhi during the lean supply season and the gap of over 20 lakh tonnes in the demand and supply of pulses at macro level.

(b) No Survey has been conducted by the Government to know the variations in the prices of pulses in Delhi. A statement showing the retail prices of pulses at Super Bazar, Kendriya Bhandar and in the open market at Delhi from June, 1994 to November, 1994 alongwith the percentage variations is annexed. [*See* Appendix 172, Annexure No. 42.]

(c) The Government has accorded the highest priority to controlling the rise in prices of pulses within reasonable limits. The prices and availability of pulses are reviewed at the highest level on regular basis and appropriate and timely action taken both for augmenting their supplies through raising indigenous production as well as through imports. Import of pulses has been placed under Open General Licence (OGL). The import of pulses during 1993-94 was higher at 6.27 lakh tonnes as against 3.82 lakh tonnes during 1992-93. During the current financial year (April—August, 1994), a quantity of 2.41 lakh tonnes of pulses has been imported as against 1.80 lakh tonnes during the corresponding period of last year.

Survey Regarding LPG Connections

1723. SYED SIBTEY RAZI: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Delhi Ration Card Holders were asked to furnish some information regarding LPG connections either held by them or not during September-October, 1994;

(b) if so, the details thereof with background for such move;

(c) whether such survey has yielded any results;

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether Government propose to provide some additional benefits to Delhi Ration Card Holders on the basis of results of such survey; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) The information on LPG connections was asked for by the Government of National Capital Territory (NCT) of Delhi during May-July, 1994.

(b) In Delhi, only 3 lakh ration card holders had declared themselves to be the LPG users whereas the number of LPG connections in Delhi is much higher. The purpose of the exercise was to ascertain the number of ration card holders, who are actually LPG users. This information is relevant as scale of issue of kerosene oil is different for LPG users and non-LPG users in Delhi.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) In the survey 2.65 lakh additional ration card holders having LPG connections have been identified.

(e) and (f) The Government of NCT of Delhi have reported that as a result of this exercise, they now have 2120 kilo litres of kerosene per month available additionally for distribution to consumers as per the existing scales of entitlement.

New System for Redressal of Grievances in Super Bazar

1724. SHRI CHIMANBHAI HARIBHAI SHUKLA: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CON-